

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/677,216
Amendment filed February 22, 2007
Reply to OA dated September 22, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 24 (Canceled)

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): An information retrieving device, comprising:

 a memory section for storing a plurality of retrieval item information, each of the plurality of retrieval item information being defined with at least one of upper retrieval item information and/or and lower retrieval item information to be hierarchically arranged, the plurality of retrieval item information being used for retrieving visible desired information, and a retrieval mode information that is associated with respective upper retrieval item information, the retrieval mode information representing a retrieval mode of immediate lower retrieval item information that belongs to a hierarchy immediately below the respective upper retrieval item information;

 an information selecting section for selecting one of the plurality of retrieval item information;

 an information acquiring section for acquiring the retrieval mode information that is associated with the selected retrieval item information; and

 a display controller for displaying the immediately lower retrieval item information on an

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input screen in accordance with the retrieval mode information; and
an output section for outputting the desired information in accordance with the operation on
the input screen.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The information retrieving device according to claim 25, wherein the retrieval mode information is rewritable.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The information retrieving device according to claim 25, wherein the retrieval mode includes selection among a list of the immediate lower retrieval item information, and input operation of information for uniquely identifying the immediate lower retrieval item information.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The information retrieving device according to claim 25, wherein the retrieving item information is used for retrieving map information.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The information retrieving device according to claim 27, wherein the retrieving item information is used for retrieving map information, and the list includes a unique name of a region contained in the map information.

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Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The information retrieving device according to claim 27, wherein the retrieving item information is used for retrieving map information, and the input operation is for inputting a name of a region or a lot number.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): An information retrieving system, comprising:

- a server unit; and
- a terminal unit connected with the server unit through a network,
- the server unit comprising: a memory section for storing a plurality of retrieval item information, each of the plurality of retrieval item information being defined with at least one of upper retrieval item information and/or and lower retrieval item information to be hierarchically arranged, the plurality of retrieval item information being used for retrieving visible desired information, and a retrieval mode information that is associated with respective upper retrieval item information, the retrieval mode information representing a retrieval mode of immediate lower retrieval item information that belongs to a hierarchy immediately below the respective upper retrieval item information;
- an information selecting section for selecting one of the plurality of retrieval item information;
- an information acquiring section for acquiring the retrieval mode information that is associated with the selected retrieval item information; and
- a display controller for displaying the immediately lower retrieval item information on an

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input screen in accordance with the retrieval mode information[[],]; and

an output section for outputting the desired information on the input screen in accordance with the operation of the display controller,

the terminal unit comprising: an input section for transmitting selection information of the retrieval item information to the server unit; and a display for receiving and displaying the retrieval item information and the desired information.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): An information retrieving method, comprising:

storing a plurality of retrieval item information, each of the plurality of retrieval item information being defined with at least one of upper retrieval item information and/or and lower retrieval item information to be hierarchically arranged, the plurality of retrieval item information being used for retrieving visible desired information, and a retrieval mode information that is associated with respective upper retrieval item information, the retrieval mode information representing a retrieval mode of immediate lower retrieval item information that belongs to a hierarchy immediately below the respective upper retrieval item information;

selecting one of the plurality of retrieval item information;

acquiring the retrieval mode information associated with the selected retrieval item information; and

displaying the immediate lower retrieval item information on an input screen in accordance with the retrieval mode information; and

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outputting the desired information in accordance with the operation on the input screen.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): An information retrieving program for executing ~~the an~~ information retrieving method ~~according to claim 32~~, the program being recorded in a recording medium in a computer-readable manner, the method comprising:

storing a plurality of retrieval item information, each of the plurality of retrieval item information being defined with at least one of upper retrieval item information and lower retrieval item information to be hierarchically arranged, the plurality of retrieval item information being used for retrieving visible desired information, and a retrieval mode information that is associated with respective upper retrieval item information, the retrieval mode information representing a retrieval mode of immediate lower retrieval item information that belongs to a hierarchy immediately below the respective upper retrieval item information;

selecting one of the plurality of retrieval item information;

acquiring the retrieval mode information associated with the selected retrieval item information;

displaying the immediate lower retrieval item information on an input screen in accordance with the retrieval mode information; and

outputting the desired information in accordance with the operation on the input screen.

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Claim 34 (Currently Amended): A recording medium that stores an information retrieving program for executing ~~the an~~ information retrieving method ~~according to claim 32, comprising:~~

storing a plurality of retrieval item information, each of the plurality of retrieval item information being defined with at least one of upper retrieval item information and lower retrieval item information to be hierarchically arranged, the plurality of retrieval item information being used for retrieving visible desired information, and a retrieval mode information that is associated with respective upper retrieval item information, the retrieval mode information representing a retrieval mode of immediate lower retrieval item information that belongs to a hierarchy immediately below the respective upper retrieval item information;

selecting one of the plurality of retrieval item information;

acquiring the retrieval mode information associated with the selected retrieval item information;

displaying the immediate lower retrieval item information on an input screen in accordance with the retrieval mode information; and

outputting the desired information in accordance with the operation on the input screen.